

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) Modified TNF, comprising TNF covalently bound to ~~between about five and twelve~~ PEG molecules having an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of ~~10,000~~ 15,000 to about 40,000.
2. (currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said TNF through a biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of ~~about~~ 20,000 to about 30,000.
3. (previously presented) The modified TNF of claim 24 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl succinate, succinimidyl propionate, and N-hydroxy succinimidyl.
4. (original) The modified TNF of Claim 2 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl succinate, succinimidyl propionate, and N-hydroxy succinimidyl.
5. (original) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said TNF is TNF- $\alpha$ .
6. (original) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said TNF is isolated human TNF.

7. (original) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said TNF is recombinant human TNF.
8. (original) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said TNF is human TNF mutated by deleting amino acids 1-9 of the mature TNF protein.
- 9-13. (canceled)
14. (currently amended) A method of enhancing the circulating half life of TNF while reducing its toxicity comprising modifying said TNF by covalently bonding to it ~~between about five and twelve~~ PEG molecules having an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of ~~10,000~~ 15,000 to about 40,000.
15. (currently amended) The method of Claim 14 in which said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said TNF through a biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of ~~about~~ 20,000 to about 30,000.
16. (currently amended) A method of enhancing the tumoricidal activity of TNF comprising modifying said TNF by covalently bonding to it ~~between about five and twelve~~ PEG molecules each molecule having an approximate molecular weight of 20,000 to 30,000.

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**PATENT**

17. (currently amended) The method of Claim 16 in which said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said TNF through a biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of ~~about~~ 20,000 to ~~about~~ 30,000.

18-23. (canceled)

24. (previously presented) The modified TNF of claim 1 wherein said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said TNF through a biocompatible linker.